FBI still holds 'one man' theory in the assassination of Kennedy

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The FBI is still holding to its "one man" theory on who shot President John F. Kennedy, finding fault with the House Assassinations Committee's recently released report concluding two men fired at the president.

This stance by the FBI comes as no surprise to Harold Weisberg, Old Receiver Road, Frederick, author of seven books on the Kennedy and Martin Luther King slayings and a man who often has butted heads with the FBI through his work.

Last week the House panel submitted the report to the Justice Department, concluding two persons fired at Kennedy when he was killed in Dallas in 1963. The findings leaned heavily on acoustical studies of sounds believed to have been picked up on a police transmitter at the time of the assassination.

The experts conducting the tests, Mark Weiss and Ernest Aschkenasy, contended that echoes of the bullet retorts showed some of the shots could have come from places other than the Texas School Book Depository — from where Lee Harvy Oswald, the accused assassin, was said to have fired.

The FBI said the findings of the two men were faulty and "must be considered invalid."

Weiss and Aschkenasy later responded "the FBI has not fully understood the techniques and underlyings concepts of our analysis."

When they say "the FBI doesn't understand their work," said Weisberg during an interview this week, "they were being kind." The author said the FBI should have performed the tests to begin with.

"Now they're embarrassed," he said of the federal agency,". . .they have to try and dispute anything else anyone says.

"Everybody's afraid to fight with the FBI. To be critical is not to destroy them, but to make them a better agency," he said.

Weisberg contends the FBI doesn't want to be bothered by evidence which is contrary to its official findings.

In addition to talking about the recording of gunfire, Weisberg said, there is a film made by a person standing near the point where Kennedy was shot, which shows the Book Depository with two moving objects in a window.

"Two objects are not one Mr. Oswald," he said. Even though the film, made by Charles Bronson, was offered to the FBI, the FBI declined to take a closer look," he said.

The FBI's reasoning, according to Weisberg, was they were afraid to get involved in a copyright infringement, a matter he contended is not a real issue.

Weisberg said at one point the late FBI director testified before the Warren Commission that the Kennedy case would not be closed, and if something is reported, it would be looked into.

The author was asked how long he thought the study of the assassination or the public's interest in it would continue.

"It will continue indefinitely," he said. ". . .people shouldn't be satisfied," he said, with what the FBI and government are trying to hand out as the truth.